

BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical • Officer • of • Health

FOR THE YEAR 1904,

BY

WILLIAM A. WETWAN, M.R.C.S.

MEMBER OF THE SANITARY INSTITUTE,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE BOROUGH.

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1905.

The Sanitary Committee.

Chairman :

Mr. Alderman JOHN SAWDON, C.C.

Members :

Mr. Alderman L. MAINPRIZE,
„ „ JOHN BENNETT,
„ Councillor JOHN T. HILL,
„ „ T. A. JACKSON,
„ „ GEORGE RENNARD,
„ „ GEORGE FLETCHER.

Medical Officer of Health :

WILLIAM A. WETWAN, M.R.C.S.

Town Clerk :

A. E. MATTHEWMAN, B.A., LL.B.

Borough Surveyor :

ERNEST R. MATTHEWS, C.E.

Inspector of Nuisances :

WILLIAM WORTHINGTON.



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REPORT, 1904.

BRIDLINGTON,

February, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Bridlington, in the year 1904.

The Borough includes the townships of Bridlington, Bridlington Quay, and Hilderthorpe, with parts of the parishes of Sewerby and Bessingby. The Borough is divided into three Wards, Bridlington, the Quay, and Hilderthorpe, which I have taken for "localities" for the purpose of this Report, and which coincide nearly, but not quite, with the localities of the Reports prior to the incorporation. The Borough has an area of four and a half square miles, with a population of 3,250 to the square mile, the area of greatest density of population being the Old Town, or Bridlington Ward.

The contour of the ground is a gentle slope, somewhat undulating, trending from the Wolds on the North to the sea on the South and East. There is a good porous subsoil of sand and gravel overlying in the South, the post-tertiary deposits of Holderness, and on the North the chalk deposits of the Wolds. The scenery varies with the geological features, running through various phases, from the bare and somewhat bleak outlook of the high ground on the North, to the sylvan sweetness and milder

air of low-lying Holderness on the South, the soft ripples of the waters of the Bay, and the distant view of Flamborough's towering headland and grand white cliffs.

DISTRICT VITAL STATISTICS for the YEARS 1893—1904.

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
BIRTHS.	225	263	244	273	278	286	314	296	332	321	313	312
DEATHS	195	135	172	165	192	238	201	216	211	221	204	221
BIRTH-RATE.	22·9	26·9	24·58	26·6	24·7	24·48	25·09	21·63	24·7	22·29	21·58	21·28
DEATH-RATES.												
All causes	19·8	13·7	17·32	16·18	17·06	20·30	16·06	15·8	15·7	15·07	14·06	15·07
Zymotic..	2·54	1·01	2·92	1·65	1·5	1·11	1·11	1·18	0·57	0·41	0·75	0·47
Infantile.	155·5	116·9	204·9	109·8	154·6	153·4	121·0	152·1	156·62	155·7	137·38	131·41

VITAL STATISTICS of ENGLAND and WALES in 1904.

The birth-rate in England and Wales in 1904 was 27·9 per 1000 of the population, which is 0·5 below the rate in 1903, and lower than the rate in any year on record; compared with the average in the ten years 1894-1903, the birth-rate in 1904 shows a decrease of 1·3 per 1,000.

The death-rate in 1904 was 16·2 per 1000, which is 0·8 above the rate in 1903; compared with the average rate in the ten years 1894-1903, the death-rate in 1904 shows a decrease of 1·0 per 1000.

The rate of mortality among infants under one year of age to 1000 registered births was 146, and is 9 per 1,000 below the mean for the ten years 1894-1903.

The death-rate among persons aged between one year and 60 years was 7·9, and that among persons aged 60 years and upwards was 68·2 per 1000 of the estimated populations at the respective groups of ages.

The vital statistics of England and Wales, together with the following Table, are taken from the Registrar-General's Report for the final quarter of 1904.

**ANNUAL DEATH-RATES per 1000 from all
CAUSES and from certain EPIDEMIC DISEASES
during the year 1904.**

	All Causes	Diseases in Cols. 3 and 9	Small Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Fever	Diarrhoea	Deaths under 1 year per 1000 births
Columns ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
England and Wales.....	16·2	1·94	0·01	0·36	0·11	0·17	0·34	0·09	0·86	146
76 gt. Towns 142 smaller Towns.....	17·2	2·49	0·01	0·47	0·12	0·19	0·40	0·10	1·20	160
England and Wales, less the 218 Towns	15·6	2·02	0·03	0·36	0·13	0·16	0·35	0·10	0·89	154
	15·3	1·28	0·01	0·23	0·09	0·14	0·27	0·08	0·46	125

TABLE OF HOUSES.

WARD.	1904.		1903.		1902.		1901.	
	Occupied.	Unoccupied.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.	Occupied.	Unoccupied.
BRIDLINGTON ...	1200	31	1153	52	1170	35	1172	21
QUAY	1272	94	1263	82	1256	12	1245	56
HILDERTHORPE	1016	100	1053	60	1045	50	943	43
Totals...	3488	225	3469	194	3471	97	3360	120

During the year the Council passed plans for 45 new houses, for 16 alterations to existing premises, and for 19 various other buildings, and granted certificates of completion for 83 new houses, etc., as compared with 106 sets of plans for new houses and 75 certificates of completion in 1903.

The above table shows that although the Borough continues to grow, we have more empty houses on hand than for several years past, and whilst the following pages tell us that the population slowly increases,

it cannot be denied that work has been very slack, and business extremely quiet during the past year. We had exceptionally fine dry weather for the greater part of the summer, there was no untoward event such as a general election, or illness in high places, to keep people at home, and the general health of the community was normal. Hence if natural advantages of climate and place were sufficient attractions we ought to have had a highly prosperous season, and aided by the attractions of an improved Parade and Spa, and the Royal Yorkshire Yacht Club Regatta, with other minor but attractive events, the year should have proved a record. Actually I find that some 30,000 fewer people were brought into the town than in the previous year. We look forward, however, to the coming summer, when we hope to see the Town's many enterprizes for beautifying and improving the place bear abundant fruit in a prolonged, prosperous, and busy season.

The enlargement of the Prince's Parade should be pushed on with every energy, and no effort spared to make it usable by the early summer. This wall fills the last gap in the fortifications of the Town against encroachments of the sea, and completes the works of protection begun nearly forty years ago. When finished, and the complementary walks and road in going order, our sea-front will be one of the handsomest on the east coast. In dealing with the extensive floor area at the widest part of the extension I would strongly advise the Council to so proportion the roof and fixtures, seats, &c., that it may be available during the winter months for lawn-tennis, skating, and similar amusements. The want of a covered space of this description is much felt both by winter visitors and residents alike, and its provision would do much to popularise our Town as a place of residence.

The widening of Clough Bridge immediately proved itself one of the most satisfactory alterations of recent years, the advantageous change from the dangerous crowding and mean appearance of the old bridge, to the present handsome vista and convenient access to the South Side, cannot fail to be apparent to every one familiar with the old order of things. The Cross Street alteration will be in every way as purposeful, and serve to accentuate the spacious aspect of the Quay as well as minister to the convenience and safety of the public. Another "danger space" I commend to the consideration of the Council is the narrow throat at the East end of Queen Street—were the prominent buildings consisting of the Oberon Restaurant and a couple of small buildings put back to the proper building line at this point, the Quay would have little left to complain of in this direction beyond the bad corner at the Queen Street end of Manor Street, and the perennial Garrison Street.

The plots of ground which the Corporation have acquired and turned into ornamental gardens add greatly to the pleasing aspect of

the town. Things of beauty, we are told, prove a joy for ever, and whilst everlasting joys can be obtained by measures so simple and at a cost so moderate, I would strongly advise the Council to continue their laudable work.

The supply of electricity for lighting and other purposes having been undertaken by the Corporation, I am glad to be able to chronicle the near approach to the completion of the necessary works. Whether electricity will prove more effective or cheaper for public lighting is open to doubt, but I do not think there can be any misgiving as to its proving a healthier light for domestic illumination than coal-gas. There have, however, been so many improvements in the processes of manufacture of this latter illuminant in recent years, and such a number of ingenious designs to increase its illuminating power, which, if conscientiously utilised, should, in conjunction with its established position, still make coal-gas a powerful opponent of electricity.

The general health of the town during the year has been good—nothing excessive in the way of sickness, and that of a mild type as evidenced by the low death-rate of 15·07 per 1,000 living. We had the usual small amount of Zymotic Disease, Scarlatina, Measles, etc., incidental to every watering-place and holiday resort.

Your new Sanatorium was opened in the early part of the year, and proved very useful in spite of inadequate staffing and defective appreciation of the true role of a Sanatorium on the part of your Sanitary Committee. The short-sighted and erroneous view that a Sanatorium is to be of use chiefly in “an epidemic” is not confined to outsiders, but is held by many otherwise experienced and intelligent members of your Council. Such an idea militates most seriously against efficiency, it at once leads to unwise economy, not to say parsimony. An insufficient staff is kept, incapable of expansion or of dealing with sudden emergencies in a new direction. Hence additional help has to be obtained, even in subordinate positions, at a higher proportional cost, or the disease left to take care of itself—and so you get your “epidemic.” Every single case of infectious sickness is a potential epidemic, and to prevent its becoming such must be isolated one way or another. The best way of keeping the peace is to be armed and prepared for war, and the only way of preventing “epidemics” is to isolate the early cases—once a disease has assumed epidemic dimensions, your Sanatorium has failed in its work and becomes an expensive encumbrance. A dozen or two beds are of no value to the community in an “epidemic” which numbers hundreds of cases, and merely enable a few fortunate people to be kept and doctored at the public expense. Viewed in its proper light, and efficiently organised and carefully administered your present Sanatorium can take and isolate all the early Scarlatina, Enteric Fever, and Diphtheria cases in the Borough and the

Rural District to the great relief of the ratepayers' pockets in both districts. Up to the present I am pleased to say we have had no death either in the new buildings or the old cottage which did duty for so long.

Early in the year you coincided with a suggestion of the County Council to join other Sanitary Authorities in sending specimens to Leeds for Bacteriological examination on terms arranged by the Council. Up to the end of the year a total of ten had been sent by the medical practitioners of the Borough, with a positive result in one case and negative in nine. You have also during the year provided sera for test purposes and treatment in the cases where this was indicated.

During the early part of the summer your Night-soil Dépôt was very full, and a cause of complaint amongst those frequenting the Scarboro' Road. In the later part of the year much of the accumulation is cleared away from the yard, and the night-soil newly gathered tipped direct into the fields of persons wanting it, but it is a doubtful point which is the bigger nuisance—paper and such-like being burned up and down the out-skirts of the Town, and littering the hedge-rows; or concentrated at the Dépôt. I hold that to scatter the modern equivalent of night-soil up and down the country side is to waste good fuel in the vain effort to make poor manure, which has only one recommendation, that of cheapness.

Throughout the year a copious supply of excellent water has been maintained in the Town's reservoirs. From the minutes of the Waterworks Committee I find that over 166,000,000 gallons was pumped and distributed, equalling a daily allowance of 31 gallons per head of the estimated population.

POPULATION.

The estimated population for the year is 14,660, divided between the three Wards, as follows:—Bridlington Ward, 5,135; Quay Ward, 5,240; Hilderthorpe Ward, 4,285.

MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages in 1904 was 108, being at the rate of 14·73 persons married to each 1,000 living. The marriage rates for the three immediately preceding years were 13·79, 17·92, and 17·61 per 1,000. The mean average rate for the ten years 1894-1903 for England and Wales was 15·8.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATES.

There were 312 births registered in the Borough during 1904, against 313 in 1903, and 321 in 1902.

The birth-rates for the three Wards were :—Bridlington, 27·45 ; the Quay, 14·12 ; and Hilderthorpe, 22·63 ; the rate for the Borough being 21·28 per 1,000 living, as compared with 21·58 for the previous year.

Children born out of wed-lock were 19, or 6·08 per cent. of the total births, and furnish an illegitimate birth-rate of 1·29 per 1,000 of the population.

TABLE OF QUARTERLY TOTALS (BIRTHS).

WARD.	1904.			1903.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Bridlington :						
1st Quarter.....	13	24	37	17	21	38
2nd Quarter.....	17	17	34	16	15	31
3rd Quarter.....	23	16	39	15	19	34
4th Quarter.....	21	10	31	18	20	38
Totals...	74	67	141	66	75	141
Quay :						
1st Quarter.....	3	8	11	11	6	17
2nd Quarter.....	8	8	16	5	8	13
3rd Quarter.....	10	16	26	9	4	13
4th Quarter.....	10	11	21	11	9	20
Totals...	31	43	74	36	27	63
Hilderthorpe :						
1st Quarter.....	12	11	23	7	10	17
2nd Quarter.....	12	14	26	18	15	33
3rd Quarter.....	10	11	21	15	22	37
4th Quarter.....	15	12	27	10	12	22
Totals...	49	48	97	50	59	109
TOTALS FOR DISTRICTS...	154	158	312	152	161	313

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATES.

The corrected deaths for the Borough were 221 in 1904, against 204, 217, and 211 in the years 1903, 1902, and 1901 respectively. The death-rate from all causes and at all ages was 15·07 per 1000 living ; it is 1·01 above that of the previous year, and 1·13 below that of England and Wales for 1904. The death-rates for the Wards were :—Bridlington, 17·13 ; Quay, 15·07 ; Hilderthorpe, 12·16.

TABLE OF QUARTERLY TOTALS (DEATHS).

WARD.	1904.			1903.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Bridlington :						
1st Quarter.....	13	9	22	12	12	24
2nd Quarter.....	9	15	24	10	8	18
3rd Quarter.....	11	11	22	6	9	15
4th Quarter.....	12	8	20	9	10	19
Totals...	45	43	88	37	39	76
Quay :						
1st Quarter.....	8	12	20	6	8	14
2nd Quarter.....	5	13	18	3	7	10
3rd Quarter.....	13	10	23	12	9	21
4th Quarter.....	7	11	18	12	5	17
Totals...	33	46	79	33	29	62
Hilderthorpe :						
1st Quarter.....	7	7	14	9	10	19
2nd Quarter.....	5	6	11	10	5	15
3rd Quarter.....	3	3	6	4	10	14
4th Quarter.....	12	11	23	8	10	18
Totals...	27	27	54	31	35	66
TOTALS FOR DISTRICTS...	105	116	221	101	103	204

There were 41 deaths of children under one year of age, being in the proportion of 131·41 infantile deaths to each 1000 registered births, being 14·59 below the infantile death-rate of England and Wales, and 23·59 below the mean average of the ten years 1894-1903. Of these infantile deaths 7, or 17·07 per cent. were of children born out of wedlock, and represent 36·84 per cent. of the illegitimate births of the year.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGE.								SEX		WARD.			QUARTERS.				Totals.					
	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 2.	From 2 to 5.	From 5 to 10.	From 10 to 15.	From 15 to 25.	From 25 to 40.	From 40 to 50.	From 50 to 65.	From 65 to 80.	From 80 to 90.	From 90 to 100.	Males.	Females.	Bridlington.	Quay.	Hilderthorpe.		1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	
Measles	3	1	..	1	1	4	4	..	1	1	5
Enteric Fever	1	1	1
Diphtheria	1	2	3	2	1	3	1	..	1
Influenza	6	5	2	1
Aphtha	1	1	1	1	1
Syphilis	1	1	1	..	1	1	1
Septicæmia	1	1	1	3	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1
Carcinoma	1	..	1	1	..	2	5	1	1	4	2	2	2	7
Diabetes	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	..	3
Rheumatoid Arthritis	1	..	6	7	1	8	9	13	4	6	4	..	17
Phthisis Pulmonalis	1	..	1	2	6	3	4	2	2	3	2	4	1	2	9
General Tuberculosis	3	2	1	1	2	9	3	4	2	2	3	2	4	1	2	17
Diseases of Brain and Spinal Cord	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	10	11	3	..	17	15	7	15	10	9	5	9	9	32
Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels .. .. .	..	2	1	..	1	1	2	1	4	14	4	1	11	15	4	14	8	10	6	3	7	26
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, &c. .. .	5	2	1	..	1	..	2	1	5	7	1	1	16	10	12	7	7	6	5	6	9	26	
Diseases of Stomach, Liver, and Alimentary Canal	3	..	1	..	..	1	..	6	5	..	..	..	10	6	7	5	4	2	7	4	3	16
Diseases of Kidney and Urinary System .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	..	..	4	5	2	7	..	5	1	1	2	9
Childbirth .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	7	..	..	1	..	..	1
Disease of Skin .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dentition, Premature Birth, etc.	20	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	12	1	15	7	9	6	7	4	3	9	6	22
Senile Decay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	2	18	7	9	4	5	5	1	4	20
Inquests { Natural Causes	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	4	5	5	3	1	1	1	1	2	9
{ Violent Deaths .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	1	1	1	2	1	..	..	1	4
Totals	41	11	5	2	3	9	19	14	40	50	25	2	105	116	88	79	54	56	53	51	61	221	

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The accompanying Table shows the corrected mortality of the Borough classified according to disease, age, sex, locality, and quarter of the year. The gross total of deaths occurring in the Borough, including those of persons not belonging to the district was 227, being 16 above the total for the previous year, and 6 above that of 1902. There were seven deaths from Measles, Enteric Fever, and Diphtheria, giving a Zymotic death-rate of 0·47 per thousand living, against 0·75 in 1903, and 1·94 for England and Wales in 1904. There was no death ascribed to Diarrhœa, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, or Croup, this year.

Yearly Mortality from Zymotic Diseases since 1893.

	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Diarrhœa.....	19	1	18	3	7	3	9	5	5	1	6	—
Diphtheria	—	2	1	—	1	—	4	1	0	—	—	1
Enteric Fever...	4	—	4	2	1	7	—	1	2	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever...	1	1	2	6	3	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Measles.....	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	—	6	4	2	4	2	1	—	1	1	1	—
Small Pox	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croup	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	2	2	3	—

Aphtha, Syphilis, and Septicœmia each took one victim ; Cancer 7 and Diabetes 3, against 15 and 4 respectively the year before. Phthisis and General Tuberculosis were responsible for 26 deaths, against 25 in 1903, whilst acute inflammatory diseases of the Respiratory System (Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc.) took 26, or 15 more than in the previous year. Diseases of the Brain and Nervous System and diseases of the Heart and Vascular System took 32 and 26 respectively in 1904, in place of 21 and 28 in 1903. Affections of the Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys, and other abdominal viscera were responsible for 25 deaths, this being 3 less than last year. The accidents of child-birth was the cause of one death, whilst Premature Birth, Debility, etc., claimed 22 victims. Senile Decay has a total of one less than in the previous year, and Inquests 4 less.

Age.—There were 57 deaths in the first 5 years of life, and 77 had attained to 65 years and upwards, with a maximum of 90 years, and a mean age of 77·5 years, leaving 87 to the intermediate stage of life, as compared with 60, 73, and 90 for these age groups in the previous year's mortality.

Time.—The first and last quarters show the highest aggregate of mortality this year. In 1903, the first and third quarters showed the highest numbers.

Yearly Mortality from certain Diseases since 1893.

	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Cancer	8	5	10	10	13	12	12	10	16	18	15	7
Tuberculosis	18	17	11	19	11	18	29	33	16	21	25	26
Influenza	6	1	11	3	2	8	5	15	4	5	4	8
Bronchitis	30	28	17	25	24	38	25	21	27	31	11	26
Pneumonia												
Pleurisy												

The mortality from Cancer fell from 15 in 1903 to 7 in 1904 ; Tuberculosis has 1 more than in the previous year ; Influenza 4 more. Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy have 14 more than last year, and 5 less than in 1902.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Notification) ACT.

Table Shewing the number of Notification Certificates received during the year 1904.

DISEASE.	Bridlington Ward.	Quay Ward.	Hilderthorpe Ward.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Total.
Diphtheria	—	3	—	1	—	2	—	3
Erysipelas	4	4	4	3	3	1	5	12
Scarlet Fever.....	13	11	6	12	3	10	5	30
Enteric Fever	1	1	2	1	—	1	2	4
Puerperal Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals.....	18	20	12	17	6	14	13	50

Fifty cases of infectious disease were notified during 1904, against 65 in the previous year. Erysipelas has a total of 12, or twice that of 1903, whilst Diphtheria with 3 is the same as last year. Scarlet Fever and Enteric Fever have been less prevalent during the past year.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified, 1900—1904.

DISEASE.	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
Diphtheria	2	5	6	3	3
Membranous Croup.....	1	—	3	—	—
Erysipelas	6	11	14	6	12
Scarlet Fever	32	33	54	47	30
Enteric Fever	11	11	3	7	4
Puerperal Fever	—	1	—	—	1
Variola.....	—	—	—	2	—
Totals.....	52	61	80	65	50

VACCINATION.

The following table relates to vaccination in the Bridlington Registration Sub-District, the Borough of Bridlington contributing the bulk of the population. The figures are the completed returns for 1903 and previous years.

Vaccination Statistics, 1888-1903.

Year.	Births.	Successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible.	Died Unvaccinated.	Postponed by Medical Certificate.	Removed to Districts known.	Removed to Districts unknown.	Conscientious Objectors.	Unaccounted for.	Per cent. lost sight of or unaccounted for.
1888	299	239	—	29	3	2	4	—	22	8·3
1889	310	191	—	37	—	2	6	—	54	17·4
1890	275	214	—	25	1	2	7	—	26	9·4
1891	324	245	—	36	2	—	—	—	40	12·3
1892	290	206	—	24	—	1	—	—	59	20·0
1893	326	202	—	33	—	2	—	—	89	27·3
1894	309	192	—	32	2	4	10	—	67	24·9
1895	308	147	—	33	2	—	—	—	67	40·26
1896	327	212	2	42	1	2	11	—	57	20·7
1897	344	213	3	33	—	2	1	3	89	26·7
1898	348	222	7	52	1	3	7	3	51	16·6
1899	373	268	6	36	10	4	7	17	25	8·5
1900	363	263	1	41	1	1	17	23	33	9·09
1901	396	291	—	51	4	2	11	32	5	4·0
1902	382	313	2	32	3	1	11	18	2	3·4
1903	366	284	2	29	—	—	18	25	8	7·1

For the first half of 1904 there were registered in the whole of Bridlington Registration Sub-District 184 births; of these 133 were successfully vaccinated, 5 were declared insusceptible, 15 were exempt by "conscientious objection" certificate, 13 died unvaccinated, 3 were postponed, and 15 lost sight of.

This Vaccination Table shows that up to the end of 1904 there must be in the town about 150 children unprotected by vaccination, as the result of the so-called conscientious objections of their parents or guardians; together with an uncertain number of other young children "lost sight of," and of many of older growth left over from the previous five years lax administration of the Vaccination Laws—say a total of 300 absolutely unprotected children (beyond what infinitesimal prophylaxis is given by a vaccinated parent) now in the Borough. Seeing that the minimum cost of a case of Small-Pox for keeping and nursing alone in an "epidemic" (a word which in this town evidently impresses people of importance, as well as "the man in the street") is a little over £20 (your two last cases cost the public about £120). Expert arithmeticians and exponents of municipal economy will readily discern that you have in your midst the making of a nice £6,000 "epidemic"; or sufficient money to cover any "wasteful" extravagance at the Sanatorium, and pay for the efficient vaccination and re-vaccination of the Borough for some years to come.

The following interesting and eloquent paragraph from Lord Macaulay should prove a useful reminder to people in our time, who, themselves having had no experience of the Small-Pox virulence, talk lightly of its horrors and presume to question the efficiency of vaccination. He said it was "the most terrible of all the ministers of death, always present, filling the churchyards with corpses, tormenting with constant fears all whom it has not yet stricken, leaving on those whose lives it spared the hideous traces of its power, turning the babe into a changeling at which the mother shuddered, and making the eyes and cheeks of the betrothed maiden objects of horror to the lover." So universal and deep-seated was the dread inspired by this loathsome disease that it is traceable to this day in the unreasoning fear with which the Small-Pox sick are shunned. I have seen the smooth face of an eloquent denouncer of vaccination and upholder of the rights of mankind to be ill himself and make others ill, turn very pale when invited to visit a mild case of Variola. Readers of history will easily recall the innumerable instances where some calamitous occurrence has similarly impressed the popular mind for generations after, such as the Gothic and Danish invasions, the Turkish inroads, the Black Death and Great Plague, etc., giving a proportional idea of the extent to which the ravages of Small-Pox were felt, estimated by the impression made.

From all these terrible fears and horrors making life a misery, we are now saved by the simple method of VACCINATION, one of the

greatest blessings the World has ever known. And yet some people are foolish, nay, cruel enough to object to it. If you want figures, the annual number of deaths from Small-Pox in London in the eighteenth century was 3,000 per million living; at the latter part of the nineteenth century it was 46 per million living. Altogether, it was calculated by a famous mathematician, named Bernonilli, that in the eighteenth century fifteen million (15,000,000) human beings died of Small-Pox every 25 years. This is sixty million (60,000,000) in the century. Had the same proportion continued, it would have meant, with our present population, 126,000 deaths from Small-Pox every year.

The Lloyd Hospital.

During the year ended June 30th, 1904, the number of In-patients was 200, Out-patients 194, and visits for medicine and advice 1,943, whilst 68 operations were performed. The capable and courteous manner in which everyone connected with the Institution performed their duties merits commendation, and the valuable work done deserves all the assistance, pecuniary or otherwise, that can be given. In February the honorary secretary, Mr. F. J. Medforth, on account of his removal from the town, resigned his position, and Mr. B. Heselton kindly consented to succeed him.

The St. Anne's Convalescent Home.

The season for 1904 was exceptionally full, both of inmates and work. With 1,250 admissions as compared with 1,109 the previous year, it is clear that the Home maintains its position with subscribers and increases its claims on the charitable public. Of the 1,250, there were 95 Phthisical cases and 1,155 General Diseases.

Improved and gained weight	993
Stationary	62
Lost weight.....	190
Died	5
	<hr/>
	1250
	<hr/>

The five deaths occurred evidently amongst that class of invalids who either of their own desire, or pushed on by unwise friends, seek a change of air as a final last effort to stay a fatal disease.

SANITATION.

Inspector Worthington's Report annexed gives a very complete résumé of the year's work in his department. I am glad to note that special attention has been given to the milk business in the Town. This is a very important trade and I trust the result of the Corporation's appeal in the test case alluded to in his report will clear the air of doubt as to the relative responsibility for action.

The Factories and Workshops Act of 1901 has been efficiently carried out since Inspector Worthington's appointment.

I note the Inspector has given attention to the vans of hawkers and showmen, and drawn attention to the necessity of some sanitary provision being made for these people on ground where fairs are held or where they are permitted to camp. Shows, fairs, markets, and gatherings of similar nature should not be permitted on sites where provision of this nature is not made.

A midden-stead on the wharf, and another at the head of the harbour, to be emptied daily, would certainly do away with much of the nuisance from deposits of fish offal.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. WETWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON.

THE BOROUGH SANATORIUM.

Medical Superintendent's Report.

February, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

The new buildings of the Sanatorium came into use early in the year with two patients—since then there have been admitted 16, making a total of 18 for the year. Of these 15 have been discharged cured, leaving 3 patients in at the end of the year. There were no deaths. All were cases of Scarlet Fever. During the first eleven months the nursing was performed by Nurse Wheetman, with the help of her daughter (who also acted as Wards-maid) and an additional nurse for five weeks at one period when there were several acute cases and her daughter was ill. The Caretaker and his wife looked after the laundry and disinfectant, and did the cooking. In June, you appointed a Cook-housekeeper to take charge of the administration block, do the necessary housework therein, and cook for the hospital inmates and staff—except the caretaker and his wife who were under a separate agreement.

In October, to facilitate the organisation of the Institution as a hospital for the isolation of three separate diseases, and at your request to economise if possible in this direction, I presented you with a report on the nursing in Sanatoria, and submitted *alternative* schemes—as a result of which in November last you appointed Sister E. Bamford, late night superintendent of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Fever Hospital, as Head-nurse with charge of the nursing department; and later, Nurse E. Fitzpatrick (certificated) as a Junior, but you declined to make any provision for the due performance of the wards-maid's work, and expressly allowed the Cook-housekeeper to continue in the belief that she was to a considerable extent independent of the Medical Superintendent and Head-nurse's authority. As a result of this mistaken arrangement and of other minor but somewhat offensive details, both nurses ultimately resigned.

After a careful consideration and inspection of many similar institutions, and study of the regulations in force at many of them, and with a complete special knowledge of all circumstances connected with our own, I drafted, at your request, a series of rules for the manage-

ment and internal discipline of the place, but for reasons best known to yourselves you insisted on altering them in fundamental principles, amongst others, giving the Medical Superintendent great responsibility but refusing him the right to check any error of conduct on the part of the domestic staff, or to correct any laxness of discipline without the intervention of the Sanitary Committee. You have further departed from the initial conception of the scope of the institution in admitting the attendance of any medical man who chooses to attend a case, turned your observation block into a private ward, etc., etc.

I regret to have to place on record that the administration of the Sanatorium on the lines you have adopted appears to me likely to militate seriously against its usefulness, and to be very liable to defeat the object with which it was erected.

Accounts.

From July 1st to December 31st, 1904, the accounts paid in salaries, wages, and tradesmen's accounts were as follows :—

Salaries, Wages, &c.—					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Medical Superintendent	...	...	...	...	10	0	0			
Nurses	...	...	...	...	38	16	2			
Caretaker	...	...	...	...	32	10	0			
Cook-housekeeper	...	...	...	...	13	0	0			
					<hr/>			94	6	2
Tradesmen's Accounts, Laundry, &c.					...			134	14	0
								<hr/>		
								£229	0	2
								<hr/>		

In February last you adopted the following scale of charges for patients :—

As to ratepayers and members of their families

Where average income does not exceed 20/- per week, no charge.

Where average income exceeds	20/-	and does not exceed	30/-	per week,	2/6	per week.
„	30/-	„	40/-	„	5/-	„
„	40/-	„	50/-	„	7/6	„
„	50/-	„	60/-	„	10/-	„
„	60/-	„	80/-	„	15/-	„
„	80/-			„	20/-	„

Visitors to Bridlington, 10/- to 40/- per week, according to circumstances.

Private patients by arrangement.

The Sanitary Committee are empowered to fix the charges, not exceeding the above scale, in accordance with the circumstances of each case.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. A. WETWAN,

Medical Superintendent.

TO THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL, BRIDLINGTON,

February, 1905.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit to you my first Annual Report of the work done by the Sanitary Department, during the year ended December, 1904.

Throughout the year the Sanitary work of the Borough has been carefully attended to, much useful work having been done without notices being served, the owners of property having in such cases complied with a verbal request to abate the nuisances found.

In addition to the verbal intimations given, 146 notices were served, calling for the execution of necessary work and most of these have been complied with, also many which were served during the year 1903.

225 houses have been inspected and the following is an analysis of the Sanitary defects found :—

Drains blocked	17
„ defective.....	12
„ inside houses, workshops, etc.	10
Defective traps	12
Absence of drainage	6
Waste pipes connected to drains	8
Untrapped waste pipes	5
Waste pipes, defective	2
„ „ to short.....	2
Drop-spouts without drains	11
„ blocked or broken	13
Defective eaves, gutters, or drop-spouts	21
Unventilated soilpipes	12
Defective water-closets	11
„ closet cisterns.....	4
Insufficient closet accommodation.....	2

Dirty and dilapidated privy closets	28
Defective soil-boxes	41
„ and dilapidated ashpits	26
Absence of, or defective ashes bins	51
Yards requiring re-flagging	27
Accumulations of manure, refuse, garbage, etc.	23
Offensive pigstyes and swill accumulations	28
Dangerous, dilapidated, and disused wells and rainwater cisterns ...	3
Dirty houses and yards	9
Keeping of animals in houses	2
Various nuisances	18

Factories and Workshops Acts.

160 Inspections have been made to the various Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses during the year, which have been found in a very satisfactory condition so far as relates to the cleanliness, air space and ventilation, the provision of sufficient suitable and separate (where necessary for the different sexes) sanitary conveniences.

The bakehouses were generally found to be all that could be desired, excepting in one case, which was found to be in a dirty condition, this, however, has been thoroughly cleansed and is now satisfactory.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, power is given to Local Authorities to certify as to the suitability of the underground bakehouses coming within their jurisdiction, and in each of the three cases in the Borough alterations have been, or are being carried out, so that the necessary certificate can be granted.

Laundries.

We have an ever-increasing number of Laundries in the district, all of which have as yet been found in a fairly satisfactory condition.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

168 Inspections have been made of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops which, with one or two exceptions, were generally found in a satisfactory condition, being regularly lime-washed and kept in a cleanly state. Attention has also been paid to the cleanliness of the milk vessels.

Samples of milk have been taken, one of which was found to be adulterated. Proceedings were taken, but the Magistrates dismissed the case on the question of jurisdiction. An appeal was made to a Higher Court whose decision is still being awaited.

Common Lodging-houses.

The Lodging-houses have been visited, and their sanitary conditions, having regard to the situation and surroundings, have been fairly satisfactory.

Vans used as Dwellings.

All vans used as dwellings, which to my knowledge entered the town, have been inspected to ascertain their condition, or the existence of any infectious disease, and I found that, owing to the absence of sanitary conveniences on the show ground, highly offensive and objectionable nuisances were being created. This is a serious matter, and steps should be taken for the necessary conveniences to be provided, or to close the ground for the purpose of fairs.

Slaughter-Houses.

The 20 Slaughter-houses in the district have been visited, and, with one exception, found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner, the case mentioned having an accumulation of offal which was being stored therein.

Public Markets.

The Public Markets have been inspected, and as a result of such inspection, the following were given up or seized and destroyed as unfit for human food :—

				lbs.
Bananas	...	...	...	30
Tomatoes	...	...	...	14
Pears	...	...	...	20
				—
Total	..	...		64
				—

Ice Cream Vendors.

Many of these businesses are in our midst, and a strict attention has been given to them; on one occasion only was there a cause for complaint, this being remedied immediately.

Offensive Trades.

The premises used for the carrying on of offensive trades have been inspected and found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner. One complaint only was made, but upon inspection the ground for such complaint was not justified.

Smoke Nuisances.

Several complaints were made in the summer season of a nuisance caused by smoke from the chimney belonging to premises known as Pool's Laundry, Horsforth Avenue. Notice was served upon the owner to abate the nuisance, which has since been complied with.

Drain Testing.

Many drains have been tested throughout the year, some of which have been found faulty, but these have been remedied after the usual notice was served upon the owners.

Disinfection.

In every case where Infectious Disease has been reported by you, instructions have been given as to the proper isolation of the patient (when isolated at home) and such preventative measures as were found necessary to meet the case. After the recovery or removal of the patient, the premises and clothing, etc., have been fumigated and cleansed. The premises were inspected in all cases and where sanitary defects were found steps were taken to have the same remedied.

A satisfactory addition has been made in the methods of disinfection, formaldehyde now being used, the new apparatus purchased answers admirably.

Port Inspection.

I have inspected 4 sea-going vessels and 41 fishing vessels, making a total of 45, the majority of which I find in a fairly clean condition.

Scavenging and Cleansing.

During the past year 3432 loads of night-soil and house and trade refuse, have been collected, averaging 66 loads per week, which has been removed and deposited upon the fields of the various farmers in the district.

The subject of trade refuse is becoming a serious one, and if such refuse is continued to be taken away free of cost for all concerned, then a receptacle ought to be provided for fish offal on the wharf side, to dispense with the objectionable nuisance created by depositing such offal over the side of the pier, on the sands, and into the sea.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

WILLIAM WORTHINGTON,

Inspector of Nuisances.



